

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4170
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2000
AMENDMENTS OF CONSTITUTION
ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to amend the Constitution and grant more autonomy to the States in deciding on the mode of functioning of the various tiers of Panchayats;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether the Government have received any requests for amendments to article 243-C of the Constitution from some States; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI. SUNDAR LAL PATWA)

(a) and (b): Amendment of Article 243-C (2) and (5) of the Constitution of India is proposed to vest discretionary powers with the State Legislatures for declaring the Chairpersons of the immediate lower tier Panchayats as members of the next higher tier Panchayat and to determine the manner of election of Chairpersons of Panchayats at the Village, Intermediate and District levels.

(c) and (d) : A reference in this behalf was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh . The views of State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have since been sought in respect of the Constitution (87th Amendment) Bill , 1999 .